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GSU View, 2012-10-29

Office of Marketing and Communications

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News and Events

Talent Show Winner Headed for Chicago Live!

Audrey LaBranche, a CAS junior majoring in math and biology, stepped into the spotlight at last week's *GSU's Got Talent* competition, delivering a stunning vocal performance that she'll reprise at Thursday's *Chicago Live!* show at Governors State University Center for Performing Arts.



Audrey LaBranche

As winner of GSU's talent contest, LaBranche earned the opportunity to perform at this week's live stage show, produced by the Chicago Tribune. She will sing an original song, *Love You*, which she wrote two years ago. LaBranche, who performs as Audrey Cher, has been singing for more than 20 years. She is a non-traditional student whose children inspired her to return to school.

Other participants in *GSU's Got Talent* were Lisa Wallace, Hosea Crossley, Lori McGregor, Angela Southall, and Christopher Cook.

Chicago Live! will be recorded for broadcast in the CPA at 7 p.m. Thursday, November 1. Host Rick Kogan will introduce LaBranche, and also discuss recent successes at GSU with President Elaine P. Maimon.

Second City, the legendary improv comedy troupe, is one of the *Chicago Live!* headline acts. Other performers and guests include Grammy Award-winning blues musician Sugar Blue; WVON radio host and former Chicago alderman Cliff Kelley; rapper and humanitarian Psalm One; Barnaby Struve, vice president of Three Floyds Brewing Company; and, from the Tribune, editorial page editor Bruce Dold, columnist Dawn Turner Trice, and travel and beer writer Josh Noel.

Thursday's show is the first time that *Chicago Live!* has been presented outside Chicago. The show will be broadcast on WGN-AM at 11 a.m. on Saturday, November 3.

Tickets for *Chicago Live!* are \$20 and can be purchased at the Center for Performing Arts [box office](#) at 708.235.2222.

Very Special Chicago Live! Event

Chicago Live! is coming to GSU on Thursday, November 1, for a special on the road presentation at the Center for Performing Arts. The show begins at 7 p.m., and tickets are only \$20.



To make the evening even more special, join *Chicago Live!* host Rick Kogan, Chicago Tribune Editor, Gerry Kern as well as an illustrious list of newsmakers, artists, and entrepreneurs for a special VIP pre-reception sponsored in part by Three Floyd's Brewing Company.

In celebration of this special event at GSU, there are two ways for faculty and staff to attend this reception. They include:

- Current GSU Promise donors, at \$1,000 and above to the 2012-2013 Campus Community Campaign, will receive a ticket to the private reception and performance. Please contact the development department to receive your VIP ticket.
- Also, tickets to the reception are available for \$100. The VIP ticket includes access to the reception, VIP performance seating, reserved parking, and a \$50 tax deductible donation to the GSU Promise.

This event is the first of its kind and is intended to cultivate new audiences to support the university Foundation and GSU Promise at this critical point of evolution in university history. Thank you in advance for your support.

For more information, or to reserve your VIP reception tickets, contact [Gina Ragland](#) at 708.235.7559.

Thanks for Session on First-Year Success

Provost Terry Allison recently thanked everyone who participated in the October 19 workshop on first-year success. His message includes a Blackboard shell for the session.

You can read [Dr. Allison's message](#).

National Rankings Show GSU Near the Top

The October 25 issue of *[Diverse Issues in Higher Education](#)* reports federal data that ranks GSU ninth in the country for universities producing graduate degrees to African-American students in health professions and health-related programs.

You can view the [rankings](#) in *Diverse Issues in Higher Education*.

Non-Traditional Student Week – 2012

GSU Celebrates Non-Traditional Student Week on November 4 to 10. The university is celebrating the hard work and dedication of the non-traditional student. Events are sponsored by Student Life and the College of Arts and Sciences (IDSS Program).

Non-Traditional Week Events:

- November 5: GSU Cyber Café - Enjoy coffee and desserts while you mingle with other students. Hall of Governors, 3 to 7 p.m.
- November 6: Election Results - Bring your "I voted" receipt to Student Commons (A2134) between 4 and 7 p.m. and enjoy refreshments, compliments of Student Life.
- November 7: *Linked-In for the Professional*, presented by Courtney Sanders, Vice President of Enrollment Management. D34012, 12:30 to 2 p.m.
- November 8: Notes @ Noon with *Financial Aid 101*, presented by Sylvia Ponce DeLeon, Interim Director Financial Aid. B2203, noon to 1:15 p.m. Bring a brown bag lunch—drinks and dessert will be provided.
- November 8: Alpha Sigma Lambda Induction. Sherman Hall, 6 p.m.
- November 9: GSU Family Night at the Movies featuring *The Avengers*. Sherman Hall, 6 to 9 p.m.

Reclaim the Prairie at NMSP – November 11

It is a perfect time of the year to spend some time outdoors doing something good for the earth that does not involve raking leaves or cleaning gutters. The Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park is seeking willing volunteers to help Reclaim the Prairie!, on November 11.

This event is perfect for everyone, old and young, as we expand our prairie flora. No experience is necessary. If you can pick a flower, rub it between your fingers, and scatter the seed, you can do this.

The activity begins at 1 p.m. in the University's Cafeteria Annex with a short introduction on how and why of prairie restoration by GSU Superintendent of Grounds Kevin Barto. Participants will then fan out in a specified area of the sculpture part to harvest, then sow prairie seed.

Once seeding is completed, light refreshments of hot cider and pumpkin squares will be served. Join us for an afternoon of fun with a purpose. Reservations are requested for this free activity. RSVP to 708.534.3084.

Curriculum Conversation – November 7

Members of the General Education (GE) Task Force, in collaboration with

the Faculty Scholarship and Teaching Center, will host a Brown Bag Lunch at which the GSU community may discuss the Curriculum Plan report. The conversation takes place on November 7, from noon to 1 p.m., in D1496.

This report represents many months of development by the GE Task Force, and integrates many best practices in undergraduate education. The recommendations that will be discussed at the Brown Bag span the full undergraduate experience and prepare us to serve our incoming lower division students who will arrive in 2014.

The Curriculum Plan is still a work in progress, and the task force encourages input and questions. In addition to attending the Brown Bag Lunch, the Task Force also invites you to respond to the report at gened@govst.edu.

View the [Curriculum Plan](#) report.

GSU Faculty and the New York Times - November 8

Student Life invites you to attend a faculty workshop hosted by the New York Times, on November 8, noon to 2 p.m. in the Hall of Honors.

As a vibrant daily record of history as it is made, The New York Times' prize-winning coverage of national and global events provides an invaluable classroom resource. This workshop will include discussions on

- Igniting students' intellectual curiosity and critical thinking
- Inspiring students to become better informed and engaged world citizens
- Dynamic ways to integrate The Times into your curriculum
- Available resources and benefits beyond the daily paper

More than 2,000 college educators across the country, encompassing virtually every discipline, have adopted The New York Times for their classes. Those who include The Times in their course syllabus receive a complimentary subscription for the duration of their course.

Please RSVP to [Johnsie McAuley](#) by Monday, November 5.

Catch Bears Fever at GSU

The first-place Chicago Bears are 6-1, and shaping up as a team that never gives up and consistently finds ways to come out victorious.

You can take advantage of Bears fever at two upcoming events, both sponsored by the GSU Recreation and Fitness Center.

At the Monday Night Bears Bash, on November 19, at 7:30 p.m., in the Game Lounge, you can cheer your team to victory as the Bears play the

San Francisco 49ers. Food, games, and prizes are on the evening's agenda as the Bears move closer to the playoffs.

On November 28 and 29, you can take the helm as quarterback during the Go Mad With Madden Tournament. Competition takes place from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Game Lounge. You must register to participate and the competition is open only to current GSU students with a current university ID. To register, contact [Jason Zelek](#).



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